

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-34. (Canceled)

35. (Original) A method of blending a plurality of image layers comprising:

organizing the plurality of image layers into upper image layers and at least one lower image layer;

blending the upper image layers into a blended upper image layer;

combining a plurality of alpha values associated with the upper image layers into a plurality of composite alpha values; and

compositing the blended upper image layer and the at least one lower image layer using the plurality of composite alpha values.

36. (Original) The method of claim 35, wherein the plurality of upper image layers are blended together using the plurality of alpha values.

37. (Original) The method of claim 36, wherein each of the plurality of upper image layers is associated with at least one of the plurality of alpha values.

38. (Original) The method of claim 37, wherein each of the plurality of upper image layers comprises a plurality of pixels that are associated with the at least one of the plurality of alpha values.

39. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein blending the upper image layers comprises:

ordering the upper image layers from a back most upper image layer to a front most upper image layer; and

blending the ordered upper image layers in an order from the back most upper image layer to the front most upper image layer.

40. (Original) The method of claim 39, wherein blending the upper images layers further comprises:

multiplying each of the plurality of pixels of a second back most upper image layer by an associated one of the plurality of alpha values;

multiplying each of the plurality of pixels of the back most upper image layer by one minus the alpha value associated with a corresponding one of the plurality of pixels on the second back most upper image layer; and

adding the multiplied pixels of the back most upper image layer to the corresponding multiplied pixels of the second back most upper image layer.

41. (Original) The method of claim 35, further comprising spatially processing the blended upper image layer prior to compositing it with the at least one lower image layer.

42. (Original) The method of claim 41, wherein spatially processing comprises two-dimensional filtering.

43. (Original) The method of claim 35, wherein the at least one lower image layer comprises a plurality of lower image layers, the method further comprising blending the plurality of lower image layers together to generate a blended lower image layer prior to compositing it with the blended upper image layer.

44. (Original) A display system for compositing a plurality of image layers comprising upper image layers and at least one lower image layer, comprising:

a display engine for blending the upper image layers into a blended upper image layer and for combining a plurality of alpha values associated with the upper image layers into a plurality of composite alpha values; and

a compositor for compositing the blended upper image layer and the at least one lower image layer using the plurality of composite alpha values.

45. (Original) The display system of claim 44, wherein the plurality of upper image layers are blended together using the plurality of alpha values.

46. (Original) The display system of claim 45, wherein each of the plurality of upper image layers is associated with at least one of the plurality of alpha values.

47. (Original) The display system of claim 46, wherein each of the plurality of upper image layers comprises a plurality of pixels that are associated with the at least one of the plurality of alpha values.

48. (Original) The display system of claim 47, wherein the upper image layers are ordered from a back most upper image layer to a front most upper image layer, and

wherein the display engine blends the ordered upper image layers in an order from the back most upper image layer to the front most upper image layer.

49. (Original) The display system of claim 48, wherein each of the plurality of pixels of a second back most upper image layer are multiplied by an associated one of the plurality of alpha values,

wherein each of the plurality of pixels of the back most upper image layer are multiplied by one minus the alpha value associated with a corresponding one of the plurality of pixels on the second back most upper image layer, and

wherein the multiplied pixels of the back most upper image layer are added to the corresponding multiplied pixels of the second back most upper image layer.

50. (Original) The display system of claim 44, wherein the blended upper image layer is spatially processed prior to compositing it with the at least one lower image layer.

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51. (Original) The display system of claim 50, wherein the spatial processing comprises two-dimensional filtering.

52. (Original) The display system of claim 44, wherein the at least one lower image layer comprises a plurality of lower image layers, and

wherein the plurality of lower image layers are blended together to generate a blended lower image layer prior to compositing it with the blended upper image layer.